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Executive Registry

**\*OGC Has Reviewed\***

25X1A

Assistant Director for Operations

21 February 1950

Chief [REDACTED]

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Distribution of the Unclassified [REDACTED] Daily Report

REFS : a. Memorandum dated 25 January 1950 to Chief, COAPS, from Assistant General Counsel, subject as above

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b. Memorandum dated 31 January 1950 to AD/CO from Chief, COAPS, subject: [REDACTED] Distribution to Newspapers, etc.

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1. Although [REDACTED] is not qualified to interpret the law pertaining to this subject it is believed that:

a. Unless the Assistant General Counsel is in doubt as to the accuracy of his opinion as expressed in Reference a no useful purpose would be served by delaying the decision on this subject in order to obtain a formal ruling on the legal factors involved from the Attorney General.

b. Regardless of the outcome of a request to the NSC for a ruling on the policy of discontinuing this service the risk involved in continuing the distribution would be unaltered.

c. It would be unreasonable to expect to obtain an agreement from the recipients of the unclassified daily report to defend collectively any legal action brought hazarding the financial standing of any CIA employee engaged in rendering this service and further to indemnify any CIA employee who became the victim of a lost suit.

d. To take any or all of the steps suggested in Reference b will:

(1) Minimize the adverse publicity which the CIA will in all probability receive if and when the service is discontinued.

(2) Strengthen the Agency's position if the decision is to discontinue the service.

(3) Delay any final and positive decision.

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2. It is concluded that:

a. No action short of legislation will give CIA employees involved adequate protection.

b. It is pointless for the Agency to delay its own decision as to whether:

(1) Special legislation is to be sought to give CIA employees involved adequate protection or

(2) The service is to be discontinued.

3. It is recommended that:

a. If the Agency desires to seek special legislation present service be continued for a reasonable length of time until it can be determined with reasonable accuracy whether or not the proposed legislation will actually become law.

b. If the Agency does not desire to seek special legislation:

(1) NSC approval be obtained to discontinue the present service on a set date.

(2) All recipients of the unclassified daily report be notified of the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the decision to discontinue the service and of the date on which service will be discontinued.

(3) Publication and distribution of the unclassified daily report be discontinued on the designated date.

(4) All official government users of the daily report including Congressmen be placed on the distribution list for the restricted report.

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L. K. WHITE

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Approved For Release 2001/08/24 : CIA-RDP57-00384R001100050010-6

| TO                   | INITIALS | DATE |
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REMARKS:

*Libel Standard*

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

| TO   |                               | INITIALS      | DATE         |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1    | Chief, COAPS                  | <i>1/1</i>    | <i>2 Feb</i> |
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| FROM |                               | INITIALS      | DATE         |
| 1    | Asst. Director for Operations | <i>S.S.G.</i> | 23 Feb 50    |
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1. The attached memo represents what I  
**REMARKS:** consider some practical thinking on the  
 subject now being considered by you.

2. As State would have to cut out dis-  
 semination to many embassies in Wash., they should be  
 consulted as should L of C who forward the "Daily's"  
 to libraries throughout the U. S.

3. I discussed this subject briefly with  
 the Director this morning and he indicated a willingness  
 to take any corrective legislation you might propose